

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: claims 1-21 are allowed. Prior art of record fail to disclose a first end cap formed of thin sheet material having inner flaps, outer flaps, and a side wall positioned between the inner flaps and outer flaps, the inner flaps being formed inward to fit over the outside diameter of the rigid sleeve; a second end cap formed of thin sheet material having inner flaps, outer flaps, and a side wall positioned between the inner flaps and outer flaps, the inner flaps being formed inward to fit over the outside diameter of the rigid sleeve, and including other combined features as recited in claims 1,17,18.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THANH LAM whose telephone number is (571)272-2026. The examiner can normally be reached on Mo-Fr, 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Quyen P. Leung can be reached on (571) 272-8188. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thanh Lam/
Primary Examiner
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